



*View from the*

# Blackdown Hills

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## Shows, Festivals & Fairs

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# Experts turn to technology to save crumbling monument

by Jack Dixon

EXPERTS from the National Trust are turning to technology in a bid to restore one of the Blackdown Hills' most famous monuments.

Specialist surveyors are to use hi-tech computer modelling equipment in their latest efforts to save the crumbling Wellington monument.

The 175ft tall obelisk, which dates back almost 200 years, has been fenced off since 2005 because of falling debris.

And experts have as yet been unable to work out exactly why the landmark, built in tribute to the Duke of Wellington after the Battle of Waterloo, appears to be falling apart.

As part of a renewed effort to get to the bottom of the monument's structural deficiencies, National Trust teams are now enlisting the help of complex computer technology.

The trust is using ground-penetrating radar to dig beneath the obelisk's stone

cladding and extract key data, and teams of surveyors have abseiled down the side of the structure to set up the machine.

TURN to page 3



EXPERTS from the National Trust abseil down the side of the Wellington Monument in an effort to establish the extent of the cracking and, right, work inside the monument with a ground penetrating radar machine

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# New visitor centre is part of proposed heritage trail across the Blackdown Hills

THE South West Airfields Heritage Trust is to open its new visitor centre in Dunkeswell as part of efforts to create a 'heritage trail' across the Blackdown Hills.

The trust's Second World War Nissen hut, which previously served as a storage facility and meeting room, has now been transformed into a visitor attraction, with a range of archive material, artefacts and equipment on display.

The hut, which was used during the war as an

administration office serving the airfield's maintenance site, was converted into a café in the 1970s, before being taken over by the trust around 20 years ago.

Having completed the transformation, those behind the project are inviting visitors inside for the first time.

A special opening event, taking place on Saturday (May 30th), will also incorporate an exhibition commemorating the formation of the Home Guard 75 years ago.

A number of experts are attending the event to deliver talks - the first at 11am and another at 2pm - while the centre will also be open for visitors to view the huge collection of memorabilia on show.

The trust says it aims to put on special exhibitions and shows throughout the year, in conjunction with its other location at Smeatharpe.

For more information, visit [www.southwestairfields.com](http://www.southwestairfields.com)

## The perfect pint!



MEMBERS of staff at the Otter Brewery, based in Luppitt, have marked 25 years in business by taking away an award at the South West's largest beer festival.

The team celebrated the company's silver anniversary by claiming the runners-up prize at the South West Beer Competition.

Industry experts named the brewery's 'Otter Head' ale among the region's best beers, at the event in Newton Abbot recently.

The three-day festival is organised by the Society of Independent Brewers and is held at one of England's last remaining malthouses.

The award will be the perfect tonic for the Luppit brewers, who have been celebrating a quarter of a century in business this year.

Patrick McCaig, from the Otter Brewery, pictured (left) with Philip Rush from AVS Wines & Beers, said: "Otter Head is a year round favourite with our drinkers and holds a special place in our hearts as brewers."

"It has a little form, having previously won a top prize at the Great Taste Awards. But it's great to see one of our earliest beers still winning over new fans in this our 25th year as a regional family brewer."

## Blackdown Hills Transition Group: Building local resilience

**I**T'S all over for another five years and drawing breath, I hear you say thank goodness. The election result was a surprise particularly given the similarity of the polls over the weeks suggesting a hung parliament.

At the hustings event organised by the Blackdown Hills Transition Group for the Tiverton and Honiton constituency held in Dunkeswell on April 21st, the candidates all commented on the well-organised nature of the event. Also the audience's emphasis on questions related to climate change, renewable energy and the environment were unlike other hustings.

These issues united the majority of hundred plus audience of differing persuasions into teasing out what each party was promising to do or even if

candidates understood the issues.

Most candidates were well-versed in the party line and dates when reduced carbon limits are set and the need for international cooperation. What appeared to be missing was any sense of urgency and clear policies relating to caring for and protecting the environment from further damage and for future generations. The parties differed in their attitude to nuclear energy, coal, oil and gas extraction and investment in renewable technology.

There was concern about immigration. The question posed related to immigration into the northern hemisphere from people in Southern countries suffering from the effects of climate change. Those unaware of the issue answered on current economic

migration and those fleeing from war-torn areas of the world.

Regardless of the result of the national and local elections the evening demonstrated a high level of concern from people living and working in the Blackdown Hills for environmental protection and the urgency of reducing our reliance on energy based on carbon.

It was good to see young faces in the audience taking part, aware and concerned about the issues and wanting to be involved in the debate about their future.

Our thanks to the candidates Paul Edwards (Green), Stephen Kearney (Lib Dem), Caroline Kolek (Labour), Neil Parish (Conservative) and Graham Smith (Ukip) for participating, all the local residents and families who at-

interested in taking part, or if you have land which could benefit from a free survey, please email Conrad Barrowclough on [conrad.barrowclough@devon.gov.uk](mailto:conrad.barrowclough@devon.gov.uk)



success. Projects need to show that they have an environmental, social, or economic benefit, and ideally a combination of all three.

If you are interested in applying log onto [www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/Sustainable-Development-Fund.html](http://www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/Sustainable-Development-Fund.html) to check that your project meets the criteria and to download an application form.

**N**ATURAL Futures is supporting communities throughout the Blackdown Hills to create their own nature projects on areas such as village greens, playing fields, school grounds and churchyards.

If you have an idea for a project, or just want to find out more, email James Maben at [james.maben@devon.gov.uk](mailto:james.maben@devon.gov.uk)

Survey now in its fifth year on Friday, 17 July 17th. There is no cost but booking is essential.

For more information: Contact Cathy Horsley on 01823 664450 / [info@somerc.com](mailto:info@somerc.com)

tended and to Martyn Goss, Director of Church and Society and Environment Officer of Exeter Cathedral, who was an excellent independent chair for the evening. We also thank all those who participated in any shape or form, particularly Tim Clewer, the organiser.

Our next Transition Meeting will be our AGM to be held at Stentwood Farm, Dunkeswell EX14 4RW on Tuesday evening June 16th at 7.30pm. If you fancy meeting others with a concern for local resilience to meet the challenges of climate change and energy depletion come along and join in or contact us via the website [www.blackdownhillstransition.org](http://www.blackdownhillstransition.org)

**Jim Rogan, Chair Blackdown Hills Transition Group**



**THE Wellington Monument marks the highest point of the Blackdown Hills**

## Further efforts to save iconic memorial

**FROM page 1**

Once the data has been collected, experts will be able to analyse the survey information and create a computer model of the monument, enabling restoration teams to come up with a more effective approach to tackling the repair job.

National Trust building surveyor Ken Evans is leading the project, alongside IT specialists at the University of Southampton. Mr Evans said: "This is the latest in a detailed set of monitoring studies we are carrying out to understand this unique and somewhat complex monument."

"The ground-penetrating radar seeks to identify voids and gaps in the stonework under the surface but should also tell us more about the materials which were used to build the obelisk."

A tribute to one of Britain's most fa-

mous military heroes, the monument stands at the highest point on the Blackdown Hills, near Wrangway.

Work began in 1817 soon after Wellington's heroics at the Battle of Waterloo, but was not completed until 1854.

The grade II listed monument is now owned by the National Trust, which is committed to restoring the structure.

Mr Evans added: "We have been using wind and movement sensors, which have already surprised us by showing that [the monument] doesn't flex in the wind quite as much as we expected."

"The modelling work will help us to identify where the stresses and strains are in the structure and will be crucial to explore repair options needed to secure the future of the monument."

# Extension proposals for parish hall

MAJOR improvements are being proposed for Clayhidon Parish Hall.

The committee wants to build an extension to provide a store room for tables and chairs and a 'green room' where visiting performers can rest and prepare. It is also hoping to conquer the old problem of mouldy walls in the toilets, by adding a lining to stop condensation.

Lack of space means chairs and tables have to be stored on the stage and the effort of lifting them down into the auditorium and then back up again after each show has long proved a challenge for helpers.

An extension would allow furniture to be stored on the same level and wheeled in and out of the hall as needed.

The shed provided at the back of the hall by the Country and Western Club for visiting artists has been a much appreciated asset, but building a permanent extension would be an opportunity to include better facilities.

The committee does not yet have a detailed idea of costings but are at the stage of drawing up outline plans. Some of the work could be paid for from existing funds, but they hope to find grants to finance the rest.

● RESIDENTS in Clyhidon are being asked if they would consider going to the parish hall to watch recent movies such as *The Theory of Everything*, *Paddington*, *The Second Best Marigold Hotel*, *Boyd* and *Far From the Madding Crowd*?

The hall committee is exploring the idea of inviting the cinema charity Moviola, which runs shows for rural communities all over Britain, to visit Clayhidon, and it's looking for local film lovers to help.

Moviola would provide superb projection and sound, a short film and trailers before the main show, and the hall would arrange a bar and nibbles and help make it a social evening. Tickets would cost around £6 per head.

An audience of about 50 would be needed to cover costs, and additional helpers would be required to

choose the films and organise the shows. If the committee thinks there is enough interest they could run a couple of trial screenings later in the year and, if successful, could possibly make it a monthly event.

If you would like to help organise film shows at Clayhidon please call Gareth Weekes on 681093 or email garethweekes@gmail.com.



**CLAYHIDON Parish Hall**

## Two found dead in Dalwood bungalow

POLICE have carried out searches and forensic examinations at a bungalow in Dalwood, in the Blackdown Hills, where two people were found dead on Sunday, May 10th. They have yet to confirm any details about the circumstances surrounding the mysterious deaths.

Graham McCartney, 63, from Honiton, was discovered at the property in Dalwood along with 59-year-old Jane McCartney.

Emergency services arrived at the property at around 3pm on May 10th when the two bodies were discovered.

Police, fire and ambulance teams

were all in attendance during the course of the afternoon.

In a statement a spokesman for the force said: "Police are continuing to investigate the circumstances that led to the tragic deaths of this couple, but are not looking for any other persons in relation to the incident."

"Family members have been made aware of their deaths and are being supported by specially trained police family liaison officers."

Police have made no further comment on the case but investigations are continuing this week.

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# Bishop leads church dedication service



PAST choristers of St Mary's from the 1960s had travelled from as far apart as London and Plymouth. Left to right - John Northam, the Rev Ron Cork, David Llewellyn-Jones Ann (nee Turner), Margaret (Llewellyn-Jones), Ruth (Hannaford), Judith (Hannaford)



ST Mary's organist and choirmaster Ron White with guest organist Michael Farley

MORE than 100 people gathered at St. Mary's Church in Hemyock for a service of thanksgiving and dedication to celebrate the completion of three projects - the installation of a new oak glazed front porch door, wooden bench seats in the churchyard and the fitting of a new trumpet organ stop.

The service was conducted by The Bishop of Crediton, The Right Reverend Nick McKinnel assisted by the rector, the Reverend David Burton.

Led by the choir the congregation gathered in the churchyard in glorious sunshine where the Bishop, led by churchwardens David Bawler and Jenny Doble, dedicated the door and benches before returning to the church to dedicate the organ stop.

To celebrate these projects an anthem had been written and composed by choirmaster and organist Ron White.

The projects were funded by donations, many in memory of loved ones, and these are recorded in a book prepared by Peter Walter.

St Mary's clearly holds a special memory in many hearts as the congregation included people who had travelled from Berkshire, Dorset, London, Warwickshire, Plymouth, Exmouth, Shropshire and Exeter to join those from the surrounding area and the local congregation.

Richard Donkersley of Hemyock, who had made and fitted the door was also amongst those present.

An organ voluntary, Te Deum Prelude by Charpentier was played by Michael Farley (whose firm maintain the organ and fitted the new stop) which drew a round of applause.

With many visiting the church after a number of years it gave the opportunity for friendships to be rekindled and memories shared as all enjoyed a cream tea organised by Hazel Partridge and team.



THE new porch door

## It's lovely weather for ducks!

THE wind made conditions fast for this year's Kilmington Pre-School Duck Race.

As usual, 400 numbered plastic ducks were tipped into the flowing stream at Jubilee Green in front of an enthusiastic crowd. Each duck had been sold for £1, which means the pre-school raised £400 to buy an outdoor bench.



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# Blackdowns clubs and organisations

## Blackdown Hills Gardening Club

MORE than 30 members and friends of the Blackdown Hills Gardening Club visited Netherbury Rectory gardens in Dorset on a glorious balmy afternoon. Paths wound through five acres of formal gardens with superb topiary, past a sleeping dragon and around natural wildlife areas with drifts of pink campion and native species.

Members wandered to the tune of birdsong and buzzing of bees, admiring the vistas, especially the clever reflection of the crenellations of the adjacent church tower in the clipped hedges of the gardens.

A very welcome slice of cake and cup of tea finished a lazy afternoon before journeying home.

The next presentation will be on Wednesday June 17th at Churchinford Hall at 7.30pm, by Angie Blackwell, of Cottage Flowers, Ilminster entitled Country Flower Arrangements from your Garden.

On Sunday July 19th the club visits Chideock Manor, Dorset, DT6 6LF at 2pm where there are seven acres of both formal and informal gardens to explore. See NGS website for details.

Everybody is welcome at any event which can be viewed at [www.upottery.com](http://www.upottery.com).

## Culm Valley Young Farmers

CULM Valley Young Farmers have had a very busy time recently, starting with a flower arranging class held at Kentisbeare Village Hall.

The evening saw 13 girls learn how to make table decorations and buttonholes with Helen Williams and Laura Reed. Thanks to the Laura Persey Trust for their kind funding of the evening.

Members Michelle Batting, Mark Snell, Charlie Cunningham and Gavin Jackson competed at East Devon Stockjudging Day.

They had a successful day, earning several prizes be-

tween them as well as the Overall Club Points Cup. Gavin Jackson won the Senior Points Cup.

Members also competed at Devon YFCs Outdoor Activities Day with Brett Troake and Keiran Palfrey coming first in the block laying, Brett also came first in the clay pigeon shooting, Gavin Jackson came first in senior dairy stockjudging and Michelle Batting came first in the intermediate dairy stockjudging.

The men's tug of war team also came first and will be competing at the South West Area round in June while the Ladies tug of war team came third and the junior tug of war team came second.

On May 8th, the club held their 68th show and sale at Exeter Market, the day was a great success with members of all ages taking part.

Congratulations to James Westcott who won the Supreme Championship with his four Suffolk X ewes and lambs as well as to Charlotte Alford who won the Reserve Champion with her Limousin beef heifer.

James Westcott and Michelle Batting spoke about the club at Hemyock Annual Parish Meeting and members attended Halberton Fete to promote the club and raise money for the Exeter Leukaemia Fund.

Members also exhibited in the YFC tent at Devon County Show.

For any information about the club, please contact chairman James Westcott on 07850940132 or secretary Michelle Batting on 07738114113.

## Hemyock WI

THE May Meeting of Hemyock WI was a visit to the Common Loaf Bakery at Dunkeswell where members were made very welcome.

President Lyn Taylor, was able to conduct a short business meeting in the very pleasant café before visiting the bakery where a wide variety of bread is made. This is sold at several markets along

with biscuits and other products that are made on the premises.

Members were able to purchase some of these goods after being served with delicious tea or coffee while sampling a vast array of the products.

During the meeting the President said Hemyock had come fifth out of eight institutes who had taken part in the centenary exhibition at Halberton in April. Members were reminded about the Book Group venue at Lower Cottage about the Lunch Club which will be dining out on the third Monday of each month.

The next meeting will be back in the Forbes Lounge when the speaker will be Kerry Wratton talking about acupuncture. There will be the usual Flower Competition and also 'My Favourite Holiday Souvenir'.

The President thanked the hosts at the Common Loaf Bakery for their friendly hospitality.

Hemyock WI meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in Forbes Lounge. More details from Lyn Taylor on 01823 680104.

**MEMBERS of Hemyock WI are pictured enjoying their outing to the Common Loaf Bakery at Dunkeswell**

## Parish Network AGM

THE annual general meeting of the Blackdown Hills Parish Network will take place on Monday, June 22nd 7.30pm at in the large meeting room at Woodhayes, near Honiton. Refreshments will be available from 7.15. The agenda will be posted by June 7 at [www.blackdownsonline.org.uk](http://www.blackdownsonline.org.uk). Parish representatives are invited to attend in order to report back to their committees.

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**ENJOYING THEIR ART:** The people who attended the flower arranging workshops at Combe St Nicholas. Right, Claire Wheadon creating her design



**FUTURE STARS:** Honiton Running Club president Alan Rowe Honiton with some of the Honiton Hippo Calf winners

## Upottery runners just keep on going

MUD, hills or water don't seem to deter young runners from Upottery Primary School.

Years 3 and 4 secured first place for the school in Stockland Cross Country Series, with Jack Kennell and Jake Johnson finishing first and second respectively in the individual rankings, and the success continued in Honiton Hippo Calf.

School running coach Nicki Dowson said: The Hippo Calf 3k, hosted by Honiton Running Club, is no walk in the park as the runners face fields of mud, a climb through Combe Woods and then - to the joy of some and terror of others - a fast moving river crossing.

"But Upottery runners just get pulled out

of the river by marshals, sprint on, pick their targets and overtake them."

Which is undoubtedly why most of them came in the top five of their age category.

"Archie Dowson won the First Boy title in the under 11 class, and was part of the dream team which won the primary school cup for the second year running," Headteacher Jason Edge commented: "We are delighted with the children's achievements. Upottery has a very proud tradition in running events, often competing against much larger schools and is a tribute to all the training they put in." So watch out East Devon Race Series, Upottery power seem to be unbeatable."

# Flower arranging proves to be a hit

FLOWER arranging workshops at Combe St Nicholas have been a hit.

Armed with fresh flowers, greenery and tons of enthusiasm, local ladies watched a step-by-step demonstration at the village hall showing them how to make a simple, but modern floral design.

They then rolled up their sleeves and with help, each produced a mini-masterpiece to take home.

One of the attendees, Jenny Wheadon, said: "I came with my daughter Claire and really enjoyed myself."

"I was a bit wary having not done anything like this before and concerned because I'm not arty or creative at all."

"However - I impressed myself and was absolutely delighted with what I made! Everyone was very friendly; everything was easy to follow, even for a complete beginner. I'm definitely coming again, it was great."

Jackie Nicholls, from Ashville Design, who runs the workshops, said: "It was an absolute pleasure to teach everybody, we had so much fun together.

"I was really impressed with the designs produced. Considering the ladies had little or no experience, the results were amazing. I'm really looking forward to the next one!"

For more details go to [www.ashvilledesign.co.uk](http://www.ashvilledesign.co.uk) or call Jackie on 07906-259683.



**GOING TO YALE:** Matthew Mortimer (left) with head of Sixth Form Rupert Carr

## Blackdowns student gets a taste of Yale University

A STUDENT from Tatworth has passed the last hurdle to secure a spell at Yale University, USA.

Year 12 Axe Valley College student, Matthew Mortimer, is one of only 150 applicants (out of 3,700 plus) to win a place on the USA Sutton Trust Programme. The programme gives "bright, state school students" a taste of life at an American university. It is delivered in partnership with the US-UK Fulbright Commission, and is centred on a one-week summer school in the US.

Mathew said: "I am extremely happy to have progressed onto the USA Sutton Trust programme."

"I felt confident after my selection weekend at the London School of Economics, but am still shocked that my place has been confirmed."

"I am very excited to spend a week at Ivy League university Yale in New Haven, Connecticut, which is ranked inside the world's top ten."

"My trip commences on the August 5th, and I am looking forward to representing my school and the South West, experiencing the culture and education system of a country that I have never had the opportunity to visit."

"In the future I hope I can progress on the programme and receive a scholarship to an American university of my choice."

Head of Sixth Form at the Axminster college, Rupert Carr, said: "We are delighted that Matthew has secured this prestigious place in the face of huge competition. "He is a fantastic representative of the college and we are sure he will make the most of this opportunity."

## Calling all netballers in the Stockland area

KEEN netballers in Stockland are looking for more players to join them, and teams to line up against them.

Stockland Primary Academy sports coach Sharon Chatting is looking for players of all ages and abilities.

She explained: "I was approached by parents to start fun netball lessons at the school on a Saturday morning. The sessions have been very popular and are attended by young and old alike."

Sharon and her fellow players say there is room for more, and would be particularly pleased if more grown-ups joined so that friendlies could be arranged.

Sharon said: Being a small group it would be great if we could host some friendly matches at our school for 'like-minded' netball players.

"We do not belong to a netball league as such, but we have enough players of a good standard to host some friendly games at our school on a Saturday morning, and all of us are passionate about the game."

"We are a very friendly bunch, who would also love the opportunity to play other teams at our school or elsewhere."

Anyone interested is asked to call school administrator Abbe Wheeler on 01404 881 456.



**A FRIENDLY BUNCH:** These keen players say there is room for more



**A TOAST TO WEST BUCKLAND STORES:** Left to right: John and Angie Andrews, Julie Bartram (proprietor), Amy Leach and Graham Roberts.

## A new beginning for village shop

WEST Buckland Stores has been officially reopened in the village after being closed for a fortnight. The store, which has been extensively refurbished, is now under the new ownership and management of Julie Bartram. It held an open morning for customers proved a big success. The store's opening times are Monday to Friday 7.30am to 6.30pm, Saturday 8am to 4pm and Sunday 9am to 11.30am.

# Shows, Festivals & Fairs

## in and around the Blackdown Hills

### Blackdown Woodland & Fair

A day of fun for all the family on the 4th of July 2015.

Free children's activities, local food and forestry demonstrations are all on the program of this year's Blackdown Woodland Fair on Saturday 4th of July at Wrangway near Wellington in Somerset.

Because it is the 200th anniversary of the battle of Waterloo and the fair is held under the Duke of Wellington's Monument, there will be a "Napoleonic living history display" with lots of marching in uniform, rifles and cannons, (what's the link to wood), well after the battle a Chestnut tree was cut down and made into a chair for the Duke, it now resides in the Palace of Westminster.

There will be a large free Children's activity area where children can have a go at a range of activities including fire lighting, den building and other bush craft skills.

Other activities and displays on offer include a wide range of demonstrations such as wood carving and furniture making, tree surgery and pole climbing, chainsaw carving, horse logging, steam saws and machinery, bow and hurdle making, willow work and Cleft work.

The grown ups will also get the opportunity to try some activities including archery, green-woodworking and tree and pole climbing. Local food and drink, including cider, and beer from Otter Brewery, apple juice, wood-fired pizzas, fresh bread, fresh meat, ice cream, and tea and cakes will be available all day. There will also be a range of wood and other products on offer from a wide range of stalls, from small craft stands to log cabins.

The fair is organized by the Blackdown and East Devon Woodland Association, an organization dedicated to the management and conservation of woodlands. Fantastic value for money a real

family day out and offers a safe and secure environment where families can allow their kids to explore and try new things and soak up the atmosphere.

The Blackdown Hills Woodland Fair is open to the public from 10am, under 16s get in free, while entry for adults only costs just £7.50 per person or £6.50.

There is free car parking and the fair will be signed on all major roads.

Go to [www.woodbiz.co.uk/blackdown-hills-woodland-fair](http://www.woodbiz.co.uk/blackdown-hills-woodland-fair) for photos of last year

And contacts



### The best of Devon life at the 22nd award winning Mid Devon Show

EXCITEMENT is mounting for the 22nd Mid Devon Show at its new venue of Knightshayes / Chettoncombe, Tiverton this year on Saturday 25th July. Partly held on National Trust land at Knightshayes Court and also partly on Chettoncombe Trust farmland this site provides a perfect setting for an agricultural show.

Behind the scenes work has been intensive to ensure that everything will be ready in time, especially making sure that traffic flow and free parking will be easy for all of our visitors.

Gates open to the public from 9am and advance tickets at the reduced rate of £13 for adults or £4 for children (5-16) are available from various local outlets or online at [www.middevonshow.co.uk](http://www.middevonshow.co.uk) until close of business on Monday 20th July. Free Child Ticket vouchers can be cut out from various publications too. Tickets at the gate will be £14 for adults and £5 for children. Highlighting in the Main Ring will be Broke FMX Freestyle Team. Led by John Pearson, these fearless motorbike daredevils will be thrilling the audience with their spectacular high flying stunts.

With many other features and attractions around the showground the event is a full day's enjoyment package for the whole family

For more information, contact the Show Organiser, Carolyn Branton on 01884 820859 or go to the website [www.middevonshow.co.uk](http://www.middevonshow.co.uk).

THIS year the seventh annual Ashill Beer & Music Festival is to be held on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th June at The Ashill Village Hall located about 1 mile from the village of Uffculme. From the first festival in 2009 the event has gone from strength to strength drawing real ale and music lovers from far and wide. The festival is organised by local volunteers and is a fund raiser for the local village hall and this year the Honeylands Childrens Charity based in Exeter, all profits from entry and beer sales going directly to the causes. It is very much a family orientated weekend with plenty of space for the kids if you want to bring them along. Food is being provided by the acclaimed local pub, The Ashill Inn and Cullompton's quality butchers Veysseys. In addition to Ales and Ciders, soft drinks and standard bar drinks are also available. Admission is £5 per person per day or £8 for a two day pass and includes a festival glass, under 18's are free.

On Friday evening 6pm - midnight and Saturday 2pm - midnight, entertainment will be provided by quality regional bands and solo artists - Dr. Chipper, Filta, Byzantium Lane, Brooklyn & Cash, Nicole Wakeling, Cloutsham, and The Thorvertones.

Check out details on Face-book.

There is plenty of under cover marquee space, so no matter what the weather deals out you can be assured of a great weekend, so get along and experience some



### Ashill Beer & Music Festival

Ashill Village Hall Near Uffculme

2 Days of Quality Ale & Music  
Fri 12th & Sat 13th June

Fri 6pm - 12 Sat 2pm - 12  
Soft Drinks, Lager etc. Available  
Food Provided by  
Veysseys Cullompton & Ashill Inn  
Admission £5 per day  
2 Day Pass £8 under 18's Free  
Includes Festival Glass  
All Profits to - Ashill Village Hall &  
Honeylands Childrens Charity



### Blackdowns Woodland Fair



4th July  
Saturday  
10am-5pm

At  
Wrangway  
Wellington,  
Somerset TA21 9QF

£7.50 per person  
Under 16's FREE

Come and enjoy the world of wood, in a beautiful setting close to Wellington Monument. This family-friendly event will bring together some of the best wood-related activities from Somerset, Devon and Dorset.

Waterloo 200  
There will be a "Living History" re-enactment this year to mark the anniversary, with military and costume displays, musket and canon firing.

More details visit:  
[www.woodbiz.co.uk](http://www.woodbiz.co.uk)



### MID DEVON SHOW

## Saturday 25 July 2015

Knightshayes / Chettoncombe, Tiverton

Tel 01884 820859

Broke FMX Freestyle Team • Vintage Farm Machinery Parade

YFC Competition • The City of Exeter Pipes & Drums

Private Driving • Parade of Hounds • Heavy Horses

Grand Parade & Presentations • Pony Club Games

**Award Winning Show!**

**[www.middevonshow.co.uk](http://www.middevonshow.co.uk)**

In aid of Mid Devon Town & Country Show Society Ltd. Charity No: 1029231

also supporting: Age UK - Mid Devon



# Shows, Festivals & Fairs in and around the Blackdown Hills



## Honiton Show

THE Honiton & District Agricultural Association are celebrating a magnificent 125 years in 2015. Join in the fun and festivities at the Honiton Show on Thursday 6th August.

The Grand Parade is one of the many highlights of the main ring activities where the day's livestock winners proudly parade. The 2015 main ring will be a hive of activity with fantastic acts including two first time visitors to Honiton; Moto Stunts International; the UK's largest stunt team, including large static car jumps, fire stunts, race quads, motorcycle stunts and specialist vehicles, and the Little Nippers Terrier Racing Display Team which will keep you all entertained.

"The Sheep Show" returns to Honiton with its humorous, educational, live stage show all about sheep, don't miss is the sheep shearing and their "dancing sheep"! Whilst on the subject of sheep we introduce new classes this year for Zwartbles, a fascinating breed who originate from the Netherlands and were first imported in the early 1990's.

The lower field incorporates all that is countryside with hurdle making, ferret racing, a blacksmiths guild and a trip down memory lane with a vintage tractor section with over 100 vehicles on display. New to the rural skills are the The Devon & Cornwall Master Thatchers who will be demonstrating this wonderful craft part of villages cultural heritage.

Honiton plays host to the West of England Hound Show, a show within a show, which attracts a huge following countrywide. There is the wonderful dog show comprising both pedigree and fun classes for the pet pooch. If chickens are your interest we have a fantastic poultry show and sale. We have entertainment in abundance for children with Professor Twistopher's Punch and Judy, as seen on the hugely popular and wildly acclaimed television series Downton Abbey or maybe a donkey ride will interest. With over 400 trade stands, including crafts, shopping and a fabulous food hall there really is something for everyone. We have a huge and diverse range of food courts to tickle your taste buds with local caterers offering the very best produce. Honiton prides itself on being a truly traditional agricultural show with a unique atmosphere it brings new and traditional agriculture together so make a note in the diary, 6th August, we all look forward to welcoming you. Don't forget accompanied under 16's are free. Make savings and purchase your advance tickets now for just £13.50 per adult for a whole day of entertainment. For further details on the show or details on becoming a member of the Association with all its benefits please contact the secretary on 01404 41794 or visit the website [www.honitonshow.co.uk](http://www.honitonshow.co.uk) or follow us on twitter @honitonshow1890.

## Blackdown Beer Festival

WE are delighted to announce that the Blackdown Hills Beer & Music Festival will be held on Friday August 7th & Saturday August 8th 2015 at Cherry Hayes Farm, Smeatharpe, Nr Honiton.

Set in the beautiful surroundings of the Blackdown Hills on the Devon and Somerset border you will see Friday night open at 6pm where we will be welcoming you to sample our 40 plus different ales and a selection of ciders together with our friends at Tricky Cider who's very popular traditional cider will be on offer. Wine and lager are also on offer if you are shy of the ale.

We are pleased to say that the Music line up is starting to look great and have something for everyone in mind over the whole weekend. Details are being updated on the website.

Saturday afternoon will see activities for the kids, which is free for them and if you are a big kid then we're sure you will love it too. This year we're having gladiator jousting, obstacle course, cow milking, (not real cows), dunk tank, apple bobbing, splat the rat, welly wanging, art & crafts, festival games, face painting and more. Then from 6pm on Saturday we challenge you to come and tame the Blackdown Rodeo Bull. The record is 180 seconds, there is a prize for the winner and a place for them in our hall of fame on the beer festival website.

We will have lots of food on offer including the Blackdown banger which is very locally produced

and a wood fired free range hog roast. Jane's legendary Veggie curry will also be on offer.

Last year the Beer & Music Festival was a huge success and we received some very positive feedback from our Festival goers. We had lots of requests for funding and we were able to approve them all.

The festival started way back in 1996 and has since been an annual event to be added to your calendar. Each year, the Festival gives grants for music teaching to our local schools. Without these grants, music would inevitably come very low down on the list of priorities for small schools on a tight budget, and many children might never have the chance to find out what they can do!

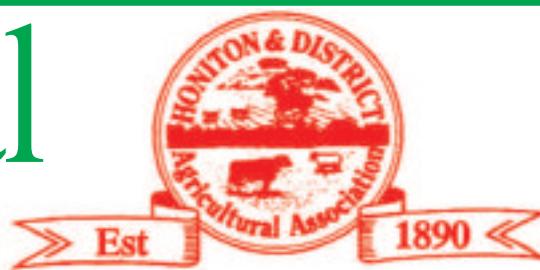
Incredibly the Ticket prices have remained low for several years now so please come along and show your support and try a few different drinks and enjoy the music. Tickets can be bought online, only at the Blackdown Beer Festival website or on the gate.

Camping is available nearby with a breakfast bar onsite. U14's can camp for and get free entry to the Festival with an adult. The camp site opens at 2.30pm on Friday 7th.

Full details of this and previous years can be found on the Beer Fest website which is [www.blackdownbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.blackdownbeerfestival.co.uk) and you can keep up-to date by clicking "like" on the Facebook page, or follow us on Twitter, @BHBAMF

**Honiton**

# Agricultural Show



(Hosts to The West of England Hound Show)

**Thursday 6th August 2015**  
Celebrating 125 years

### ACTION PACKED MAIN RING

- The Moto Stunt International Stunt Team
- Little Nippers Terrier Racing Display Team
- Grand Parade of Livestock • Alpacas, Cattle, Horses & Sheep

DONKEY RIDES • VINTAGE TRACTORS • DOG & POULTRY SHOWS  
PROFESSOR TWISTOPHER'S PUNCH & JUDY (AS SEEN ON DOWNTON ABBEY)

**Children (Under 16) Free Entry when accompanied by an adult**

***A fantastic day out for all the family, gates open at 8.00am***

**Tickets in advance just £13.50**

Secretary; Marcelle Connor, Bank House, 66a High Street,  
Honiton, Devon EX141PS

**[www.honitonshow.co.uk](http://www.honitonshow.co.uk)**



# Melplash Agricultural Society plans for another great day out at The Melplash Show

PLANNING is well underway for this year's Melplash Agricultural Show on Thursday 27 August. The team is building on the success of last year and is busy putting the finishing touches to what is going to be another fun-filled day celebrating the best of rural life by the sea.

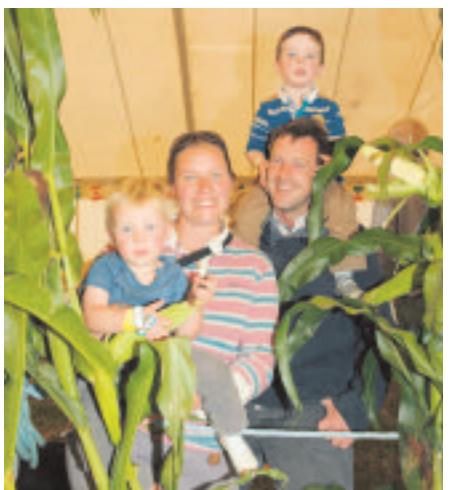
With farming and agriculture at the heart of the Show it gives everyone who attends the opportunity to enjoy the riches of rural life. The finest cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, donkeys, horses, as well as farm produce, rural crafts, horticulture and handicrafts from the local area will be on show. And new this year is the Discover Farming trail – a must for all families who are interested in learning more about food production and farming. By following the trail around the show ground visitors will be given a real insight into farming life and food production, and in the new dedicated

Discover Farming Marquee children of all ages will be able to get hands on experience of a variety of 'Farm to Food' activities.

The main attraction in the Toolstation main ring this year, where entertainment will be happening throughout the day, is the Royal Air Force Falcons, the UK's premier parachute display team. They will be performing their unique and colourful aerial display and hopefully if conditions are right their famous 11-person non-contact canopy stack display routine.

All the favourites are back too, including the popular countryside arena where spectators can watch gun dogs, hawk displays, ferret racing and even get their own dog involved in the terrier racing.

"With trade stands selling well, and the Food Hall already full, everything is on schedule for another fantastic day," said Show Secretary, Lucy Hart.



**ROYAL AIR FORCE FALCONS**  
Parachute Display Team

**THE MELPLASH SHOW**

**2015**

**THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**1847** **Est. 1847** **2015**

**A Traditional Country Show**  
**A Full Day's Entertainment for all the Family**

**On the day: Adults £14 - Advance tickets: Adults £12**  
**Children Go Free!\*, Free Bus†, Free Parking**

**Advance tickets available on-line at [www.melplashshow.co.uk](http://www.melplashshow.co.uk)**

\*if accompanied by an adult †Free Bus from Lyme Regis, Charmouth, Chideock & Bridport



# BLACKDOWN BEER FEST

**Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> 6pm – 1230 am**

**Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 12am**

- Bucking Bronco
- Fun and Games
- Good Food
- Camping

- Real Ale
- Cider
- Wine
- Live Music

**Cherry Hayes Farm,  
Smeatharpe, EX14 9RD  
Just 10 mins from Honiton**

[www.blackdownbeerpestival.co.uk](http://www.blackdownbeerpestival.co.uk)



# Shows, Festivals & Fairs

in and around the Blackdown Hills



## Lots of attractions at the Axe Vale Festival

AT THE family friendly Axe Vale Festival you will find much to inspire you on the gardening front; an impressive floral marquee full of colour and scents, stalls selling plants the like of which you have never seen before as well as your favourites, seeds, garden tools and garden fur-

niture to relax on.

Other attractions include marquees displaying all sorts of tempting foods, crafts of great variety, skill and ingenuity, toys and hobbies including many nostalgic exhibits, art, and antiques and collectables.



There are arena events including displays by heavy horses, motorbikes and sidecars, old caravans, gundogs and hawks. A number of craftsmen will be demonstrating their skills, many of them traditional. The stalls in the shopping malls will give opportunity for retail therapy, and for the children there many different activities.

The Axe Vale Festival takes place on June 20th and 21st 2015 at The Showground, Trafalgar Way.

Tickets are £8.50 for adults, £2 under 16s, and free for under 5s. Advance tickets are £7/£1.50 from Archway Bookshop, Serendip Sidmouth, Mole Avon Axminster, and local Tourist Information Centres (advance tickets available until June 19th at 5pm). Tickets can also be purchased online at [www.axevalefestival.co.uk](http://www.axevalefestival.co.uk). Parking is free, and a free bus service will be available from Axminster Town Centre and station.

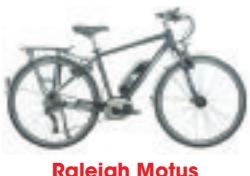


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Bosch Active Line Motor

Bosch Active Line centre crank drive motor,  
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Raleigh Captus step-through



Bosch Intuvia Cycle computer

Bosch Active Line centre crank drive motor,  
Bosch 300 watt battery,  
Bosch Intuvia cycle computer.  
Raleigh V brakes, 9 gears.

**Showroom Open 10.00am-5.00pm Mon-Sat  
Unit F, Reme Drive, Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton EX14 1SE  
(At the top of Reme Drive - past Duralife and Quicks)**



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## AXE VALE FESTIVAL

**Saturday & Sunday  
20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June 2015  
[www.axevalefestival.org.uk](http://www.axevalefestival.org.uk)**

Registered Charity No. 1130829

# what's on

## in and around the Blackdown Hills

### Taunton Goes Wild at Somerfest 2015 June 20th 11am-5pm

SOMERFEST 2015 on June 20th will celebrate Somerset Wildlife life by bringing the countryside into Taunton for a day of performances, music, sports and arts in a spectacular mid summer outdoor festival.

At the centre, there is a colourful river parade with Taunton's schools and communities bringing wildlife sculptures along the River Tone to join a packed programme of street theatre, acrobats, Brazilian dance, trapeze artists, street bands and performances in Castle Green, the High Street, Goodland Gardens and Somerset Square.

The river parade starts from Castle Green at 3.30pm with over 200 children taking part from the schools river themed workshops organised by Somerset Wildlife Trust and Fuseper-

formance celebrating the Routes to the River Tone. Wild life and crafts activities will run throughout the day and there will be story walks starting from the Museum of Somerset, Otters Tales puppet shows, a secret fairy tale garden, Living Topiary Statues and costumed animal characters. Free sports activities will include basketball, miniature tennis, canoeing and katanas on the river.

There will be an underwater fire juggler (a Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist) plus a human powered bicycle music machine and art installations.

Taunton's very own Town Crier will direct you to where you need to go. Beat boxers and street dancers will add to the festival atmosphere. Somerset Square and Brewhouse Theatre, will

host the outdoor Live Music Stage.

Go Create and Creative Somerset artists will be offering free arts workshops. Cream teas will be served from the Cafe Terrace at the Brewhouse Theatre. From the river pontoon, you will be able to take free boat excursions on the River Tone.

Enjoy the local food and drink at the town's restaurants, cafes and pubs and at the county markets bringing some of the best Somerset arts and crafts, produce and Somerset cider.

For further information, please contact: Sally Mann Telephone: 01458 259638

Mobile: 07866771601 email Info@fuseperformance.co.uk

Details of our programme: visit www.somerfest.net Twitter: @somerfest, Facebook: Somerfest

**Somerfest**

Riverside parade, water spectacular, live music, street performances, family activities, country markets, circus, sports, arts and crafts.

20 June 2015  
11am - 5pm  
Taunton

FREE

Castle Green  
Goodlands Gardens  
Somerset Square  
High Street

[www.somerfest.net](http://www.somerfest.net)

[www.facebook.com/somerfest](https://www.facebook.com/somerfest)  
Contact 01458 259638

@SomerfestJone

## Requiem by Faure

HEMYOCK Singers' spring concert held at St Mary's Parish Church began with the reflective Requiem by Faure.

The Introit and Kyrie gently led into a crescendo with good dynamics and well sustained notes. Patrick Peglar was the excellent guest baritone soloist and was well supported by the whole choir in the Offertory, where there was a strong lead by the altos, and later the Libera me.

Jenny Doble, soprano soloist and choir member, performed the Sanctus with great feeling and the dulcet tones of the soprano section of the choir excelled when performing In Paradisum bringing the work to a close.

Vivaldi's Gloria had a superb attacking entry for Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo and by the end of the entire work it was clear to the small audience that this work was a great favourite with the choir.

Jenny Doble, well known and loved by local audiences, duetted with Hemyock Singers newcomer Sue Bennett for Laudamus te, with both ladies taking solos later in the work. The choir was accompanied by organist Nigel Atkinson – all under the leadership of musical director Matthew Bale.

Following the concert the audience and choir were invited to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Val and Ron White, a choir member and previous musical director.

### To advertise please call

Alex Phryce-Jones on

01297 35750

email [alex@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:alex@tindlenews.co.uk)

send your editorial

and photos to

[lisa@pemedia.co.uk](mailto:lisa@pemedia.co.uk)

## diary dates

**Wednesday June 17th 2015**, Blackdown Hills Gardening Club, Churchinford Hall, TA3 7QZ, 7.30pm. Presentation on country flower arrangements from your garden by Angie Blackwell, Cotage Flowers, Ilminster. Visitors £3.00. Free refreshments. Everyone welcome to join us.

**Friday June 26th** THE Big Bat Survey training workshop is back on June 26th at the Churchinford Cricket Pavilion.

The workshop will explain how to survey for bats so that you can take part in the Blackdown Hills Big Bat Survey now in its fifth year on Friday, 17 July 17th. There is no cost but booking is essential

For more information: Contact Cathy Horsley on 01823 664450 / [info@somerc.com](mailto:info@somerc.com)

**Sunday July 19th** Blackdown Hills Gardening club outing to Chideock Manor, DT6 6LF, 2.00pm, £10 including tea and cake. Seven acres of formal and informal gardens, directions on NGS website. All welcome to come along. [www.upottery.com](http://www.upottery.com).

**Sunday August 16th** Blackdown Hills Gardening Club outing to Burrow Farm Gardens, EX13 7ET 2.00pm. £6.00. Thirteen acres of gardens, tea room and nursery. Everyone very welcome. [www.upottery.com](http://www.upottery.com).

If you are holding an event in the Blackdown Hills and would like it included as a Diary Date in the paper please email the details to [alex@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:alex@tindlenews.co.uk). Don't forget to include the date, time, place, organiser's name and a brief description of the event.

Honiton Community & Arts Centre

## CINEMA



### A LITTLE CHAOS (12A) Fri 5th June 7.30pm

Director: Alan Rickman Writers: Jeremy Brock, Alison Deegan

Stars: Kate Winslet, Alan Rickman, Stanley Tucci

A female landscape-gardener is awarded the esteemed assignment to construct the grand gardens at Versailles, a gilt-edged position which thrusts her to the very centre of the court of King Louis XIV.



### SUITE FRANÇAISE (15) Fri 12th June 7.30pm

Director: Saul Dibb Writers: Matt Charman, Saul Dibb, Irène Némirovsky

Stars: Michelle Williams, Kristin Scott Thomas, Margot Robbie

During the early years of German occupation of France in World War II, romance blooms between Lucile Angellier, a French villager and Bruno von Falk, a German soldier.



### FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (12A)

Fri 26th June 7.30pm

Director: Thomas Vinterberg Writers: Thomas Hardy, David Nicholls

Stars: Carey Mulligan, Tom Sturridge, Matthias Schoenaerts

The independent and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene attracts three very different suitors: Gabriel Oak, a sheep farmer; Frank Troy, a reckless Sergeant; and William Boldwood, a prosperous and mature bachelor.



### THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL (PG)

Fri 3rd July 7.30pm

Stars: Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Bill Nighy

The highly-anticipated sequel to 2012's delightful hit British comedy drama. As the Best Exotic Marigold Hotel has only a single remaining vacancy - posing a rooming predicament for two fresh arrivals - Sonny pursues his expansionist dream of opening a second hotel.



Ticket Prices: Adult £6.50 Under 16's £5.50

Book in advance to avoid queues

[www.beehivehoniton.co.uk](http://www.beehivehoniton.co.uk)

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10 - 1 Saturdays  
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**Ashill, Ilminster**

**£465,000**

Detached country house with extensive ground floor living space with additional kitchen and conservatory that could easily be annexed off for dual occupation if required. Excellent outside space for those with a keen interest in horses, enjoying a full size all-weather ménage, a 5 stable block and two paddocks. Various barns and useful outbuildings ideal for those working from home. In all about 2.7 acres.



**West Hatch, Taunton**

**£770,000**

An attractive farmhouse found on the edge of the Blackdown Hills with adjoining barn in circa. 16 acres. The cottage style home offers good accommodation with four bedrooms, two bathrooms/shower rooms, four reception rooms and a modern kitchen. There are various utility areas and although Vincents Farm has been run as a smallholding has potential to offer conversion of outbuildings to holiday accommodation (subject to the necessary planning consents).

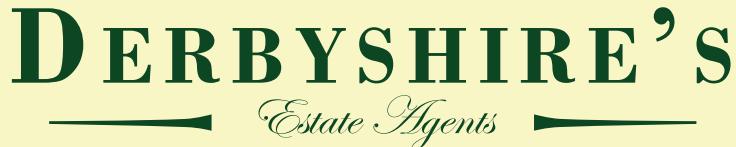
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At Derbyshire's we recognise that village and rural properties require specialist marketing, and have a department which just specialises in these properties covering the villages and hamlets between Yeovil and Taunton. Our service was recently described by Marcus Whewell, CEO of the Guild of Professional Estate Agents, as "uniquely filling the gap between where the High Street Agents finish and the Country House boys begin".



**Ashill - £575,000**

A 4 bedroom family home, with no forward chain. Comprises: Entrance porch, kitchen/dining room, 2 reception rooms, master bedroom suite, 3 further bedrooms, bathroom with jacuzzi bath and shower. Private driveway with ample parking, detached double garage, heated swimming pool with decked area, pool summerhouse, winterised log cabin, Barbecue Lodge, rear garden and patio area.



**Lydmash, Chard - £565,000**

An spacious 4/5 bedroom bungalow set in its own grounds in this quiet location just outside Chard. The accommodation comprises: Storm porch, entrance hall, sitting room, kitchen/diner, dining room/bedroom 5, 4 further bedrooms, family bathroom, utility room, huge loft space, double garage with workshop, summerhouse, gardens and paddock totalling approximately 1.55 acres.



**South Chard - £325,000**

An extended detached house located in the village of South Chard. Comprises : 3 bedrooms, bathroom, study, lounge, kitchen / breakfast room, utility area dining room, cloakroom / wash room, entrance porch, entrance hall, side porch, garage, ample parking, large village gardens. The property requires cosmetic updating, however benefits from partly upvc double glazing and central heating. No Chain.



**Donyatt - £280,000**

A unique cottage set within a private location of the popular village of Donyatt. The accommodation comprises : two double bedrooms, bathroom (bath & Shower), lounge (with log burner), kitchen / diner, utility room, cloakroom, sun room, spacious entrance lobby / store, cottage style gardens and ample parking. The property benefits from recent refurbishments and oil fired central heating. No Chain.



### London Property Exhibitions



**Hewood, Thorncombe - £179,950**

A charming 1 bedroom Grade 2 listed cottage in the exclusive hamlet of Hewood near Thorncombe. The property has been run as a successful holiday let for a number of years prior to coming on the market. Comprises: Entrance porch, sitting room/dining room, kitchen, 1 bedroom, bathroom with bath and shower above, garden, outside store and parking.

As members of the Guild of Professional Estate Agents, our properties are marketed through the Guild's prestigious offices in Park Lane London throughout the year. However in addition we hold regular Somerset Property Exhibitions during which we completely take over and staff the Guild's offices. This provides us with a unique opportunity to sit down with London Buyers and discuss their individual requirements, effectively taking our property portfolio to London.

SUMMER EXHIBITION - THURSDAY 25TH JUNE, PARK LANE, LONDON.

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Marcus Bond from The Village & Country team on 01460 63600.

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